From: Durant, Jennah [Durant.Jennah@epa.gov]

Sent: 6/13/2019 2:42:15 PM **To**: R6Press [R6Press@epa.gov]

Subject: Daily News Digest, Thursday, June 13
Attachments: Daily News Digest 061319.pdf

1 – DEQ asks Jeff Landry for permission to sue Denka over chloroprene emissions in St. John Parish, Baton Rouge Advocate, 6/12/19

https://www.theadvocate.com/new_orleans/news/article_1971759e-8d5c-11e9-b2fc-836ac01bf8df.html
The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality is asking state Attorney General Jeff Landry for permission to sue Denka Performance Elastomer, saying the chemical company that for years has been embroiled in controversy over its emissions of chloroprene has violated the Clean Air Act.

2 – Decision-makers 'more excited about gas than concerned' about drilling rig's missing safety barrier, report on fatal Quinton explosion finds, Tulsa World, 6/13/19

https://www.tulsaworld.com/news/state-and-regional/decision-makers-more-excited-about-gas-than-concerned-about-drilling/article 6854804b-3b23-53cf-93d2-6f659daae1f1.html

Decision-makers were more excited by "sky high" gas flares than they were concerned that a primary safety barrier was gone, leading to an explosive drilling rig blowout that killed five workers near Quinton, according to a federal investigative report released Wednesday.

3 – U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board recommends better drilling oversight as part of final report on 2018 fatal blowout, fire, The Oklahoman, 6/13/19

https://oklahoman.com/article/5633775/us-chemical-safety-and-hazard-investigation-board-recommends-better-drilling-oversite-as-part-of-final-report-on-2018-fatal-blowout-fire

Federal investigators are recommending improved federal and state oversight of onshore drilling operations after investigating a blowout and fatal fire at a drilling site in eastern Oklahoma in early 2018.

4 – Gert Town residents sue New Orleans over radiation found, removed from neighborhood, Baton Rouge Advocate, 6/12/19

https://www.theadvocate.com/new_orleans/news/article_72d32c46-8d6a-11e9-b884-4f877f98ddbd.html Two New Orleans residents filed a lawsuit against the city Wednesday over radioactive material that workers recently dug up and removed from the Gert Town neighborhood, arguing that officials had known about the problem for years and should have relocated nearby residents while they worked to remove the material.

5 – Confusion reigns at WOTUS hearing, E&E News, 6/12/19

https://www.eenews.net/eedaily/2019/06/13/stories/1060564537

Senators at a Clean Water Act hearing expressed interest in reopening the law to clarify which wetlands and waterways it protects. But that effort would likely be stymied by the fact that participants in the Environment and Public Works Committee hearing expressed confusion over basic concepts of Clean Water Act jurisdiction.

6 – Obama Water Regulations Criticized as Senate Backs Rule Change, Courthouse News Service, 6/12/19 https://www.courthousenews.com/obama-water-regulations-criticized-as-senate-backs-rule-change/

^{*}Please note: All articles are available in the attached PDF.

^{*}To receive the Daily News Digest in your inbox, email R6Press@epa.gov.

^{*}Daily News Digest is for the informational use of EPA Region 6 employees. Please do not distribute further.

Senate Republicans lambasted the previous administration's water regulations as a federal power grab Wednesday in a hearing on the new policy rolled out by President Donald Trump.

7 – Texas man contracts flesh-eating bacteria in Corpus Christi, undergoes life-saving surgeries, San Antonio Express-News, 6/12/19

https://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local/texas/article/Man-undergoes-life-saving-surgeries-after-13972901.php

A Corpus Christi man is recovering after he contracted vibriosis, a flesh-eating bacteria, last week and underwent several life-saving surgeries.

8 – EPA Announces Grants For Environmental Cleanup In OKC And Tulsa, KGOU, 6/12/19

https://www.kgou.org/post/epa-announces-grants-environmental-cleanup-okc-and-tulsa

The Environmental Protection Agency recently awarded grants to Oklahoma City and Tulsa for the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfield sites. Journal Record editor Russell Ray discusses how the EPA defines a brownfield site, the history of the program in OKC and how communities across the nation are benefiting from the grants.

9 - OPINION: 'Not In My Backyard' - Environmental Justice 101, Forbes, 6/12/19

https://www.forbes.com/sites/marshallshepherd/2019/06/12/not-in-my-backyard-environmental-justice-101/#2bc5151a886d

People instinctively protect their own interests. However, the unfortunate truth is that some segments of our society are better positioned to mobilize, gather legal resources, and articulate their opposition.

10 – Watchdog group finds weedkiller ingredient in cereals at levels it considers unsafe for children, Tulsa World, 6/13/19

https://www.tulsaworld.com/news/national/watchdog-group-finds-weedkiller-ingredient-in-cereals-at-levels-it/article_b0d08dbd-f9d9-5279-bc17-39abd9d0d0aa.html

The Environmental Working Group's Children's Health Initiative found glyphosate, the main ingredient in the herbicide Roundup, in 21 samples of General Mills' products, with 17 samples having levels higher than what the group considers safe.